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Atty. Docket No. STE01 P-1164

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Date 7/12/04

Debra L. Cooper  
Debra L. Cooper

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Adam C. Bedford et al.  
Appln. No. : 10/792,309  
Filing Date : March 3, 2004  
Confirmation No. : 4641  
For : COMBINED TENSION AND BACK STOP FUNCTION  
FOR SEATING UNIT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3). Further, Applicant certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. As the Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication, copies of the listed U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application publication documents are is not included with the submission of attached Form PTO 1449.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Applicant : Adam C. Bedford et al.  
Appln. No. : 10/792,309  
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This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAM C. BEDFORD ET AL.

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,  
DeWitt & Litton, LLP

Date

July 12, '04

  
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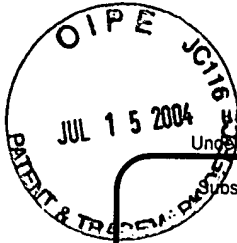
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/792.309
Filing Date	March 3, 2004
First Named Inventor	Adam C. Bedford et al.
Art Unit	3636
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	STE01 P-1164

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,931,531	08/03/1999	Assman	
		US- 4,966,411	10/30/1990	Katagiri et al.	
		US- 4,709,962	12/01/1987	Steinmann	
		US- 2,711,211	06/21/1955	Tidcombe	
		US- 4768244	09/06/1988	Riedl	
		US- 4935977	06/26/1990	Yamada	
		US- 4318556	03/09/1982	Rowland	
		US- 2002/0043867	04/18/2002	Lessmann	
		US- 5022709	06/11/1991	Marchino	
		US- 5269497	12/14/1993	Barth	
		US- 5282285	02/01/1994	de Gelis et al.	
		US- 5385389	01/31/1995	Bishai	
		US- 5316371	05/31/1994	Bishai	
		US- 5658049	08/19/1997	Adams et al.	
		US- 2316628	04/13/1943	Schaffner	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 82/01760	05/27/1982	Arild		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.